

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 183993

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD/JA

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE CASE: JAPANESE
HANG GLIDER ASSOCIATION

REF: TOKYO 12165

1. CONCUR IN SUBMISSION OF HANG GLIDER CASE TO TFC.
SINCE JAPANESE OFFERING REDUCTION OF TARIFF ON AIRCRAFT,
INCLUDING HANG GLIDERS, IN MTN, BELIEVE TFC CASE SHOULD
FOCUS ON ELIMINATION OF QUOTAS AND REQUIREMENT FOR PRIOR
PERMISSION TO IMPORT EACH UNIT.

2. SUGGEST POST REVISE CASE TO ELIMINATE REFERENCE TO
TARIFF, AND INCLUDE MORE SPECIFIC WORDING IN REQUESTING
REMOVAL OF QUOTA. IN "DISCUSSION" SECTION OF CASE POST
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MAY WISH TO INCLUDE ARGUMENT THAT EXCLUSION OF HANG
GLIDERS FROM GENERAL QUOTA ON AIRCRAFT IS APPROPRIATE,
SINCE THEY ARE USED PURELY FOR SPORT PURPOSES AND HAVE
LIMITED FLIGHT CAPABILITIES. ALSO SUGGEST THAT REQUEST
FOR COMPARABILITY WITH U.S. REGULATIONS BE DROPPED.
WHILE MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO CITE U.S. PRACTICES UNDER
"DISCUSSION", WE RECOMMEND AGAINST REQUESTING COMPARABILITY

IN RELIEF SOUGHT, TO AVOID COMPLICATING A SIMPLE ISSUE,
I.E. REMOVING QUOTA.

3. WOULD HOPE SUBJECT CASE CAN BE SUBMITTED TO TFC PRIOR
TO SENIOR REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING. CHRISTOPHER

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